

1455-1

CEIRIOG RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

C. E. SALT, J.P., M.B., Ch.B. (CHIRK DISTRICT)

IAN G. M. FIRTH, M.B., Ch.B. (LLANSILIN DISTRICT)

including

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

R. W. AUBREY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,

1938.



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COUNCIL OFFICES,

CHIRK,

WREXHAM.

30th August, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members
of the
Ceiriog Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

It is with regret that we have to make apologies for the late presentation of our Fourth Joint Annual Report on the Health Conditions of your district for the year ended the 31st December, 1938, due to very heavy pressure of works of Civil Defence necessitated through the strained international situations of the past year.

Apart from the ever-increasing duties in Public Health matters imposed upon the Council the latter half of the year 1938 saw the creation of an entirely new sphere of national and local government activity in the form of Air-Raid Precautions and Evacuation Schemes. In the matter of A.R.F. the Council have the responsibility under the County Council for the effective operation of Air Raid Wardens, First Aid, Ambulance and other services for the safety of the population during any war periods, which has entailed an enormous amount of additional duties since their inception in October, 1938. As the scheme is a purely voluntary one the response to appeals for volunteers to be trained for works in connection with the various services has been very gratifying, the result of which is that at the time of writing this report considerably more volunteers have been trained than the numbers required by this district under the scheme for A.R.P. proposed by the Denbigh County Council and approved by the H.M. Home Office.

In the matter of evacuation, under the government scheme for the evacuation of persons from areas vulnerable to air attack during war periods to areas considered less vulnerable, this district has been scheduled as an area for the reception of persons from a section of Liverpool. In connection with this a survey has been undertaken to ascertain the number of householders in the district who would be prepared, should the necessity arise, to receive into their homes, either accompanied or unaccompanied children or other persons from an evacuated area. Tribute is due to a large body of voluntary helpers who carried out the actual house-to-house canvas for this purpose and for the thorough and conscientious manner in which the work was carried out.

Both Air Raid Precautions and Evacuation Schemes appear to be permanent additional spheres of local government activity which must be reckoned with in future from an administrative point of view and one which during periods of national emergency must take precedence over all other activities.

Details of the various routine works are given in the following pages of this report which, coupled with the foregoing matters on which we are not required to report, represent one of the busiest years in your service yet experienced.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area			
Chirk	..	..	4,773 acres
Glyn Traian ..	..	..	7,830 "
Llansantffraid, Glyn Ceiriog ..	..	..	5,949 "
Llangadwaladr ..	..	..	1,792 "
Llanarmon D.C. ..	..	..	9,295 "
Llansilin ..	..	..	16,170 "
Llangedwyn ..	..	..	1,686 "
Llanarmon M.M. ..	..	..	2,219 "
Llanrhaiadr ..	..	..	13,555 "
63,269			

Population.

Parish	CENSUS RETURNS			REGISTRAR GENERAL		
	1911	1921	1931	1937	1938	Est.)
Chirk	2,623	2,576	2,955	}	}	
Glyn Traian	900	950	865			
Llansantffraid, Glyn Ceiriog	1,034	1,073	1,058			
Llangadwaladr ..	147	142	120			
Llanarmon D.C.	262	259	222			
Llansilin	1,278	1,161	1,081			
Llangedwyn	254	218	170			
Llanarmon M.M.	98	91	77			
Llanrhaiadr	1,151	1,053	1,048			
	7,747	7,523	7,596	7,016	6,998	

Number of Inhabited Houses

Parish	CENSUS RETURNS.			RATE BOOK.	
	1921	1931	1937	1938	
Chirk	533	674	747	750	
Glyn Traian ..	206	215	255	256	
Llansantffraid, Glyn Ceiriog ..	239	270	298	304	
Llangadwaladr ..	33	33	35	35	
Llanarmon D.C. ..	59	54	64	64	
Llansilin ..	280	282	303	300	
Llangedwyn ..	46	45	48	48	
Llanarmon M.M. ..	17	18	20	20	
Llanrhaiadr ..	249	249	287	299	
1,662				1,840	
				2,057	
				2,076	

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1938

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1938					1939
Chirk	..	..	..	£9,696	£9,878
Glyn Traian	..	..	..	2,155	2,206
Llansantffraid, Glyn Ceiriog	..			2,633	2,632
Llangadwaladr	..	..		203	204
Llanarmon D.C.	..	..		657	664
Llansilin	..	..		6,065	6,060
Llangedwyn	..	..	..	387	387
Llanarmon M.M.	..	..		82	82
Llanrhaiadr	..	..	..	4,472	4,478
					</

Sum Represented by Id. Rate, 1937				1938			
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.	
Chirk	..	..	37 15 0	40 17 10			
Glyn Traian ..	..	..	8 13 6	8 14 9			
Llausantffraid, Glyn Ceiriog	..	..	10 10 2	10 13 8			
Llangadwaladr ..	..	..	0 17 1	0 17 4			
Llanarmon D.C. ..	..	..	2 14 1	2 14 4			
Llansilin	..	..	26 3 5	26 0 8			
Llangedwyn	..	..	1 15 7	1 13 3			
Llanarmon M.M. ..	..	..	0 8 3	0 8 0			
Llanrhaiaadr ..	..	..	19 5 0	18 19 10			
<u>£108 2 1</u>				<u>£110 19 8</u>			

SOCIAL CONDITIONS (including the chief industries carried on in the area, and extent of unemployment).

These conditions are included in previous Annual Reports and there has been no material change in the Social Conditions in the area during 1938.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births—Legitimate ..	106	59	47	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.4
Illegitimate ..	2	1	1	
	<u>108</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>48</u>	
Stillbirths—Legitimate ..	2	—	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 18.5
Illegitimate ..	—	—	—	
Deaths	93	43	50	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.2
Deaths of Infants under one year—				
Legitimate ..	5	4	1	
Illegitimate ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	

Death Rate of Infants of one year of age—

All infants under 1,000 live births	46.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	47.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	Nil

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal causes ..	Nil	Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ..

„ Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	Nil
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ..	Nil

It is very pleasing to be able to report for the sixth successive year no woman has died in or as a consequence of childbirth during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	Total
All Causes	43	50	93
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
2 Measles	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—	—
6 Influenza	—	2	2
7 Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	2	4
10 Other tuberculous diseases	—	—	—
11 Syphilis	—	—	—
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—	—	—
13 Cancer	6	8	14
14 Diabetes	—	3	3
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	2	4	6
16 Heart disease	15	16	31
17 Aneurysm	—	—	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	1	2	3
19 Bronchitis	1	—	1
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	1	—	1
21 Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—
22 Peptic ulcer	—	1	1
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—	—
24 Appendicitis	—	—	—
25 Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	—	—	—
27 Other digestive diseases	2	2	4
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	2	2	4
29 Puerperal sepsis	—	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes	—	—	—
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	3	1	4
32 Senility	—	3	3
33 Suicide	1	1	2
34 Other violence	5	—	5
35 Other defined diseases	1	3	4
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	—	1

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, & Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	County of Glamorgan
Rates per 1,000 Population					
BIRTHS—					
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	15.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.28
DEATHS—					
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	13.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.00
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.28
NOTIFICATIONS—					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	0.85
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	0.14
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas ..	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.14
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	0.41
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57	46.2
Deaths, from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	Nil
MATERNAL MORTALITY—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available	}	}	Nil
Others	2.19				
Total	3.08				
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
MATERNAL MORTALITY—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available	}	}	Nil
Others	2.11				
Total	2.97				
NOTIFICATIONS—					
Puerperal Fever	14.2	18.08	12.51	3.53	0.11
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.46	0.22

General Provision of Health Service for the Area

Public Health Officers :

Medical Officers of Health (Part-time) :

Dr. C. E. SALT, J.P., M.B., Ch.B. (Chirk District)
Tel.: Chirk 227.

Dr. IAN G. M. FIRTH, M.B., Ch.B. (Llan-iliin District)
Tel.: Llanrhaiadr 202.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (Whole-time) :

Mr. R. W. AUBREY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Tel.: Glyn Ceiriog 17.

Additional Sanitary Inspector (Whole-time)

Mr. E. P. JONES, A.R.S.I.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Diphtheria Swabs, etc., are examined at the Birmingham University.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Last year it was our pleasure to report the formation of the Oswestry and District Ambulance Service of which your Council is a constituent member, for the ambulation of cases of illness and accident (other than Infectious Diseases). The scheme has now been in operation for twelve months and the First Annual Report shows that throughout the district of the scheme 169 journeys have been undertaken covering a distance of 5,247 miles.

The Ambulance is kept at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen, from which it is available for general use.

The Scheme is proving of great benefit to the district especially to the more rural sections.

The local Colliery Companies continue to maintain ambulances for the use of their workmen in cases of industrial accidents.

Infectious diseases are dealt with by the ambulances maintained by the Isolation Hospital for this purpose.

The district is now, generally speaking, well provided for in this connection.

HOME NURSING.

The local Voluntary Nursing Associations continue to serve the district, and it is pleasing to note that a scheme has been put into operation for the co-ordination of these Associations to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

No nursing facilities are provided by this Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

There have been no changes in these services during the year.

HOSPITALS.

No Hospital Services in the area are provided by the Council. The Chirk Cottage Hospital continues to service Chirk and the Glyn Valley, the Llansilin and Llanhaiadr areas being served by the Oswestry Cottage Hospital for general purposes.

A great advance is in the process of establishment for a Voluntary Hospital Scheme to cover this area as part of a scheme reported on by the British Hospitals Association for the Regional Hospitalisation of Shropshire and Mid-Wales which provides for a voluntary contribution of 3d. per week from insurable persons under the National Health and Pensions Scheme in return for which free treatment and hospital service is guaranteed for the wife and dependants (up to 16 years of age) when required at a suitable hospital.

This scheme when properly inaugurated will supply one of the greatest needs to the general community, which has long been outstanding and is one which cannot but be looked upon as a boon.

It is also hoped in a comparatively short time that it will be possible to extend this scheme on an arranged table of contributions to persons not now within the scope of the National Health and Pensions Acts.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

From the following tables it will be seen that the district has been exceptionally free from Infectious Diseases during the year, all notified cases occurring in a mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever in Chirk, an isolated case of Diphtheria, and three cases of Pneumonia, which were all removed to hospital.

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable Infectious Diseases in the various parishes of the district:--

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneu- monia
Chirk	6	1	3
Glyn Traian	—	—	—
Glyn Ceiriog	—	—	—
Llangadwaladr	—	—	—
Llanarmon D.C.	—	—	—
Llansilin	—	—	—
Llangedwyn	—	—	—
Llanarmon M.M.	—	—	—
Llanrhaiadr	—	—	—
	6	1	3

**Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED during the year, in Age Groups.**

Disease	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5— 10	10— 15	15— 20	20— 35	35— 45	45— 65	Over 65 years	Total all ages
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	6
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	3
Acute Polio Encep	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	1	2	..	3	2	3	..	3	..	..	14

**Infection Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
REMOVED TO HOSPITAL during year.**

Disease	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5— 10	10— 15	15— 20	20— 35	35— 45	45— 65	Over 65 years	Total all ages
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	6
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	1	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	7

DEATHS from Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	Over 65 years	Total all ages
Diphtheria													
Erysipelas													
Scarlet Fever													
Enteric Fever													
Puerperal Fever													
Pneumonia											1		1
Total											1		1

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the Prevention of Blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

TUBERCULOSIS.—No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925 (relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

New Cases and Mortality during 1987

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15—	..	..	I	I	I	..	..	I	..	..
25—	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35—	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55—	..	..	I	..	..	..	I	..	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	4	I	I	—	I	I	..	..

Chirk Water Inspector's Report for 1938

Mr. Chairman/Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report of the Chirk Water Works.

The year under review was one in which I found a new spring on the meadow, and was able to get same into the reservoir without pumping. This has made a saving to the Council of about £470 0s. 0d., and if it had not been for this spring, it would have been necessary to have pumped water from the Canal, as we had to do during the previous year.

It was necessary to pump water from the Borehole for 65 days, a total of 981 hours. We should have been in a very serious position if there had been a fire in the district, or a breakdown in our pumping plant.

The Compressor Air Tank will not pass the Board of Trade Regulation, as there is no manhole to enable us to examine. We had no overflow for many weeks—only just enough water to enable us to keep the consumers going.

Last year we had to pump water from the Canal, 2,144,015 gallons at a cost of approximately 3/6d. per thousand gallons. It was necessary to execute repairs to our oil engine and pump, etc., at a cost of £6.

We were able to sell the tubes out of the old borehole to Mr. Brydon, Harrogate, for the sum of £107.

I give below a schedule of much of the routine work during the year ending 30th December, 1938.

CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS.

	No	Remedies
Localising Water Stoppages	39	39
Poor Pressure	14	14
Sediment in Water	3	3
Burst Mains	4	4
Burst Pipes	34	34
Faults in Stop Valves	6	6
Other causes	30	30
Tapped Mains for New Consumers... ..	13	
Dwelling-houses Visited, and Re-visited...	502	
Defects Found	960	
Business Premises Visited and Re-visited	80	

CLASSIFICATION OF COMPLAINTS.

	Defects remedied upon notifying Own .	
Corroded Pipes	10	10
Defective Bibtaps	28	28
Defective Balltaps	10	10
Leaks in Storage Tanks	5	5
Leaks in Burst Service Pipes	29	23

and 6 by Council

QUALITY OF WATER.

Reservoir Water Analysis ... Very Good.

A number of estimates were prepared by me for the Council for improvements.

I wish to thank members and officials of the Council for their co-operation and courtesy shown me during the year.

I must draw your attention once again, as in my 1937 report, to the lack of fire fighting arrangements in the Parish.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

E. MOSS EDWARDS.

Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

Annual Report of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES.

As the rainfall for the year has been above the average the question of shortage has not been acute, and the details given in the Annual Report for the year 1937 are in the main applicable to the present year.

Schemes on which a great deal of time and deliberation has been spent are the Pandy and Llansilin Water Supply Schemes, a resumé of the progress of which is as follows:—

PANDY WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

Negotiations with Riparian Owners have continued and have been pursued to a satisfactory conclusion, opposition from this source having been withdrawn on the undertaking of the Council not to abstract more than one-fifth of the flow of water in the River Tierw for the purpose of this supply, and other minor points.

Delicate negotiations have been undertaken with the Glynceiriog Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., on the question of compensation of damages for loss of power by the abstraction of water for this supply, the conclusion of which has been that the owners of this Supply Company have agreed to withdraw any opposition to the scheme subject to the Council paying the sum of £500 to them as free compensation.

Tenders for the supply of the necessary Chlorination and Filtration Plant have been invited and the Council have provisionally accepted the tender of The Permutit Company, Ltd., London, in the sum of £696 0s. 0d. for this plant.

Generally, the scheme at the end of the year 1938 is almost ready for commencement and at the time of writing this report the scheme is well under way, approximately one-half the mains of the scheme having been laid.

LLANSILIN WATER SCHEME.

In the last Annual Report it was mentioned that this scheme had been handed over by the inhabitants of the village to the Council and that a scheme for the provision of a new reservoir and the relaying of mains had been prepared.

The scheme has now been submitted to and approved of by the Ministry of Health, and tenders for the carrying out of the works invited.

The Council accepted the Tender of Messrs. Martin Evans, Wrexham, for the sum of £1786 17s. 4d, and at the time of writing this report the works have been practically completed.

SEWERAGE.

No schemes of sewerage have been carried out during 1938.

CHIRK SEWERAGE SCHEME.

Messrs. J. D. and D. M. Watson, Consulting Engineers, have the preparation of detail plans in hand for the sewerage of that part of Chirk between Rhosywaen and Colliery Road via the Holyhead Road, which when completed will be submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.

The joint scheme for Sewerage and Sewage Disposal with the Oswestry Rural District Council has not yet been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval, due to delay over which the Council have no control.

CLOSET CONVERSION.

There is nothing to report under this heading.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The direct labour Scavenging Scheme still continues to give highly satisfactory service, details of which are tabulated below.

COSTS.

Total Cost of Operation of Scheme.

1937	1938
£563 16 1	£514 6 6

Approximate number of premises served by scheme...	1,053
Total number of loads of house refuse collected.....	1,092
Average weight per load of house refuse collected...	
	1 ton, 13 cwt., 0 qrs.
Estimated total weight of house refuse collected...	1,911 tons
Number of miles travelled in collection	7,458
Number of loads of night soil collected (Chirk only)...	234
Approximate Number of houses from which night soil is collected	244

TABLE OF NOTICES SERVED FOR THE PROVISION OF SANITARY DUSTBINS, 1938.

Form of Notice	No. Served	No. complied with	No. of Bins provided
Informal	8	8	13
Statutory	Nil	Nil	Nil
	8	8	13

LLANRHAIDR SCAVENGING.

During the year arrangements have been made for the closing of the dump for tins at Penrhodfa, and for the leasing of a dump for this purpose in a field of Glaniwrch Farm, Llanrhaiadr.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Several complaints have been received as to pollution of Rivers and Streams by house refuse, which have been dealt with. In some cases the complaints have been remedied by the extension of the Council's Scavenging to collect refuse from the properties which previously gave rise to such.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

No action has been found necessary under the Shops Acts 1934 and Public Health Act 1936, in so far as the powers of the Council are concerned.

CAMPING SITES.

No action has been taken in respect of the licensing of Camping Sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936.

The amount of camping in this district is small. The number of camps which would require to be licensed under the Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Health is only one. An estimate of the maximum number of campers resident in the whole of the area, during the summer season of 1938 would be 100, many of these camping on isolated sites.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No action has been taken to provide the above facilities by the Council.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No action has been found necessary under this heading.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Public conveniences at Chirk, Llanarmon D.C. and Llanrhaidr (Ladies) have been completed under the year, and the tender of Mr. Amos Phillips, Glynceiriog, has been accepted for the erection of Conveniences at Glynceiriog for the sum of £392 4s. 0d.

SCHOOLS.

There are no changes in the Sanitary Condition and Water Supplies during the year under review, nor has it been necessary to take any action in respect of Infectious Diseases among school children.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following table gives a classified List of the Inspections of the Area:—

CLASSIFICATION OF INSPECTIONS:—

Houses	434
Houses re-inspected	277
Slaughterhouses	351
Meat Shops	327
Sewage Works	193
Water Works	80
Milk and Dairies Orders	177
Housing (Rural Workers') Acts 1926-38.....	64
New Buildings	162
Visits to cases of Infectious Diseases	13
Number of Rooms Disinfected	23
Complaints	188
Nuisances	30
Nuisances re-visited	32
Petroleum Acts	15
Factory and Workshop Acts	55
Various Inspections	557

Total Number of Inspections made 2978

CLASSIFICATION OF DEFECTS:—

	Found Remedied	
Dirty and Overcrowded	—	—
Dampness	14	14
Light and Ventilation	—	—
Drainage—		
Blocked	12	12
Other Defects	3	3
Defective Roofs	41	41
Defective Floors	13	13
Defective Plaster	6	6
Defective Downspouts and Gutters... ..	5	5
Defective W.C. Fittings	18	18
Defective Grates and Ranges	15	15
Defective Wash Boilers... ..	15	15
Defective Ash Receptacles	14	14
Domestic Water Supplies	54	54
Houses re-decorated	15	15
Unclassified defects	47	47
	272	272

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors
or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises 1	Number of		
	Inspections 2	Written Notices 3	Occupiers Prosecuted 4
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries)	5	..	..
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries)	20	..	..
WORKPLACES Other than Outworkers' Premises)	30	..	..
TOTAL ..	55	Nil	Nil

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Particulars	Number of Districts			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H M. Inspector	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	..	..	..	..
Want of Ventilation	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..
Want of Drainage of floors ..	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances	..	..	..	..
Sanitary } insufficient	..	..	..	..
accommo- } unsuitable or defective	..	..	..	..
dation } not separate for sexes	..	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101) ..	..	..	..	..
Other offences	..	..	..	..
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
TOTAL	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Housing.

BACK-TO-BACK and BACK-TO-EARTH HOUSES.

A detailed survey of houses in the above classes has been carried out with a view to action being taken in respect of such, as it is felt that these represent the greatest housing problem in the district, and it is hoped that a scheme will be devised to either repair, recondition or demolish the whole of these houses. Such a scheme will undoubtedly provide a great deal of work for the Council requiring firmness and tact for its satisfactory completion, and which when completed will have done much to bring about a higher standard of housing comfort.

The results of the survey are tabulated below, in the Committee districts of the Council.

	Back-to-Back	Back-to-Earth Houses
Chirk	23	21
Glyn Valley	1	38
Llansilin & Llanrhaiadr	Nil	88
	24	147

The total number of houses in the district being 2076, it will be seen that houses of these classes constitute 8.23 per cent. of the total. Although this percentage appears high there is unfortunately no means of obtaining comparative figures for other similar districts to ours.

These figures do not include farm-houses, a large number of which are built back-to-earth, but which do not fall within the scope of the Housing Act 1936.

OVERCROWDING.

The overcrowding Act has now been on the Statute for three years during which comparatively short period much has been done to relieve overcrowding in this district, the results of the original survey of 1936 and two review surveys during 1938 are shown in the following table.

No of Overcrowded Houses.

	Chirk	Glyn Valley	Llansilin & Llanrhaiadr	Total
Survey, 1936 ..	41	23	22	86
Review, Apl. 1938	20	11	12	43
„ Dec. 1938 ..	6	5	6	17

The total number of cases for review at the end of 1938 was:—

Chirk	Glyn Valley	Llansilin and Llanrhaiadr	Total
6	3	5	14

As the latest (December 1938) figures include 8 cases of overcrowding which have through increased ages in the families become overcrowded since the original survey it will be seen that a total number of 77 cases have been de-crowded in the district since the original survey, of which 41 have been relieved by the Council and 36 by owners or occupiers. This shows a creditable performance both on the part of the Council and of owners and occupiers of overcrowded houses, and it is hoped that this good work will be sustained. The percentage of working-class houses overcrowded has been reduced over this period from 5.85 per cent. to 1.04 per cent. Such encouraging results are due chiefly to the fact that the full effects of the 68 new houses erected by the Council during 1939 on overcrowding is now apparent and to the kind co-operation of the owners and occupiers of overcrowded houses who responded excellently to an appeal by the Council for the relief of overcrowding.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES.

During the year the Council have endeavoured to obtain sites for re-housing at Llanarmon D.C., Llansilin and Llangedwyn, but unfortunately have only been successful in completing arrangements for the erection of 4 houses on the site of Banhadla Cottage, Pentrefelin, Llangedwyn, in respect of which the Council propose to accept the Tender of Mr. William Gittins, of Rhos, Wrexham, for the erection of 4 houses for the sum of £1,625.

The various notices served and their effects are to be seen by a perusal of the following table of procedure under the Public Health and Housing Acts:—

Inspection of District

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	434
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	711
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated regulations, 1925	111
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	111
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	154
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2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers	109
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	13
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room Demolition Orders were made	Nil

No. of undertakings under Section 11 (3) given by owners and accepted by Council that house shall not be used for human habitation until the Council are satisfied that the house has been rendered fit	10
No. of undertakings as above cancelled on works being carried out to render the house fit for human habitation	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :

(a) (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	17
(ii) No. of families dwelling therein...	17
(iii) No. of persons dwelling therein	100½
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
(c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved by local authority during the year	4
(ii) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved by owners or by changes of tenancies	11
(iii) No. of persons concerned in (i) above.....	21.
(iv) No. of persons concerned in (ii) above	66½
(d) It is not known that any dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after steps have been taken by the local authority for the abatement of overcrowding.	

HOUSING (REPAIRS) ACCOUNT.

In view of the extraordinary amount of works carried out and charged to this account during the year the figures shown below, although higher than in recent years do not on examination appear to be unduly so.

HOUSING REPAIRS, COSTS, &c.

1919 Houses

No. of Houses—136.

Year ending 31st Mar.	Total Rent Income £ s d	To Credit Repairs a/c £ s d	To debit Repairs a/c £ s d	Average cost of Repairs per house £ s d.	Percentage of Total Rent Income expended on Repairs
1928	2334 16 0	357 7 7	392 10 1	2 17 8.65	16.809

1924 Houses.

No. of Houses—35.

1929	630 5 8	94 10 10	89 0 6	2 13 11 27	14.124
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ALL HOUSES (239)

1938	3531 18 11	696 16 1	372 17 7	1 11 2 439	10.56
1939	4027 0 8	750 8 6	651 6 10	2 14 6.06	16.16

Included in this expenditure is the sum of £135 10s. 6d. for the external painting of 53 houses at Chirk and 2 houses at Llansilin; also the provision of four new floors, and five brick wash-boilers.

Up to date a total of 88 new floors (17 wood and 71 tile) have been laid out of the Repairs Fund, together with 105 new brick wash boilers and 12 new ranges, which items constitute a heavy annual charge to this account.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926-1938.

The activities of the Council under these Acts have somewhat lessened during the year under review, due probably to the state of international tension, which prevailed for part of the year.

HOUSING (Rural Workers') ACTS, 1926-31.

No. of applications received up to 31/12/38	No. of applications granted	No. of applications refused	No. of applications granted during 1938	No. of works completed before 1938	No. of works completed during 1938	No. of works in course of construction at end of 1938.	Work not commenced on 31/12/38.	Total cost of works (completed)	Amount of Grants paid up to 31/12/38	Amount of Loans made to Owner	Average cost per house	No. of Houses re-conditioned during 1938 without grant	Total No. of Houses re-conditioned up to 31/12/38
80	72	10	6	58	4	2	1	£11,324	£4,720	£800	£176 18 9	1	64

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER.

From the following table it will be seen that the large increase in the number of Registered Wholesale Producers of Milk during 1937 has been sustained during 1938. It is interesting to note that since the formation of the Ceiriog Rural District Council in 1934 the number of Registered Milk Producers has increased from 48 to 158, of which 42 are accounted for during 1938.

It is gratifying to be able to report that there is a growing desire on the part of producers for better cowshed conditions, in consequence of which little difficulty is experienced in obtaining the required standard of cowshed construction.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Registered Retailers, Retail and Wholesale Producers of Milk	156
Number of Inspections, informal and preliminary to serving Notices under Milk and Dairies Orders...	42
Number of Visits to Registered Premises	177
Number of Statutory Notices served	58
Number of Notices complied with (including Notices served during 1937)	47
Number of informal Notices served	6
Number of informal Notices complied with	4

During the year there has been an increase of 42 in the number of Registered Wholesale Producers of Milk.

No samples of milk have been taken during the year for analysis.

There are 7 licensed producers of milk under the Milk (Special Designation) Order 1936.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses	2
Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses	9
Number of Licensed Slaughtermen in District	16
Number of Slaughterhouses in District	11
Number of Visits paid	351
Average number of visits per Slaughterhouse	32

Defects.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	2	2
Defective Walls and Floors... ..	—	—

MEAT SHOPS.

Number of Meat Shops in District	9
Number of Visits paid	327
Number of Complaints made	—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle ex Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed (if known) (approx.)...	114	...	6	4,286	313
No. inspected ...	97	...	6	2,547	280
All disease except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	15	...
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	0.58	...
Tuberculosis only. Whole car- cases condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	3
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	1.0

ADULTERATION—CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD. NUTRITION. SHELL-FISH (MOLLUSCAN).

No action has been necessary under the above heads in this district.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUG ACTS.

These Acts are administered by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council and by the courtesy of the Chief Inspector. The following table shows a summary of the work done under these Acts in this district.

Particulars of samples taken under the above Acts in the Ceiriog Rural District, during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

Milk	8
Mustard	1
Blanc Mange Powder	1
Tinned Tomatoes	1
Condensed Milk	1
Total	12

All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst as being genuine apart from one sample of milk which was the subject of a prosecution.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD NUTRITION.

No work has been carried out by the Council under these heads.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of Visits made to Water Supplies (Public and Private)	50
Number of Re-visits ditto ditto ditto	30
Number of Defects found	26
Number of Notices served	20
Number of Defects remedied	18

NEW BUILDINGS.

Number of Plans submitted for the approval of the Council:—

	Plans submitted for approval by Private Enterprise.	No. of works approved	No. of works completed Dec, 1938
Houses ...	2	2	6
Bungalows ...	3	3	1
Alterations ...	3	3	3
Other Premises ...	1	1	...

No. of Visits paid to New Buildings ... 162.

R. W. AUBREY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, we wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to yourselves, your Clerk and Sanitary Inspectors for their unfailing help and support at all times and to assure you of our desire to promote the Public Health of the district.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servants,

CHAS. E. SALT, J.P., M.B., Ch.B.,
IAN G. M. FIRTH, M.B., Ch.B.,

Medical Officers of Health.

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